

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on May 22, 2008.

Claims 1-61 are canceled; claims 62-76 are added; as a result, claims 62-76 are now pending in this application. Applicant respectfully submits that the new claims are fully supported by the originally-filed application and that no new matter has been introduced.

These new claims strongly resemble those presented at the in-person interview on January 8, 2009. In particular, these claims include the aspects of automatic configuration of software, settings, and rules on client machines; client-side self-monitoring and execution of tasks based on client properties being monitored; and dynamically grouping clients with similar configurations of interest, which can be used to make task distribution more efficient. These aspects, in combination with other elements of these claims, were indicated as being unique and novel over the references of record.

Reservation of Rights

In the interest of clarity and brevity, Applicant may not have equally addressed every assertion made in the Office Action, however, this does not constitute any admission or acquiescence. Applicant reserves all rights not exercised in connection with this response, such as the right to challenge or rebut any tacit or explicit characterization of any reference or of any of the present claims, the right to challenge or rebut any asserted factual or legal basis of any of the rejections, the right to swear behind any cited reference such as provided under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, or the right to assert co-ownership of any cited reference. Applicant does not admit that any of the cited references or any other references of record are relevant to the present claims, or that they constitute prior art. To the extent that any rejection or assertion is based upon the Examiner's personal knowledge, rather than any objective evidence of record as manifested by a cited prior art reference, Applicant timely objects to such reliance on Official Notice, and reserves all rights to request that the Examiner provide a reference or affidavit in support of such assertion, as required by MPEP § 2144.03. Applicant reserves all rights to pursue any cancelled claims in a subsequent patent application claiming the benefit of priority of the present patent application, and to request rejoinder of any withdrawn claim, as required by MPEP § 821.04.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 371-2134 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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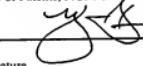
Date 20 Feb 2009

By 

John I. Fischer
Reg. No. 60,900

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 20th day of February, 2009.

Ken Sanders
Name


Signature